



**USAID**  
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**SENEGAL**

## Dateline Dakar

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### Senegal chosen for Malaria Initiative: Ziemer on first visit overseas

Admiral R. Timothy Ziemer, the newly-appointed U.S. Malaria Coordinator, visited Senegal in late July on his first field trip to the country to discuss and introduce President Bush's new malaria initiative for Africa with representatives of the Government of Senegal.

In June 2005, the U.S. Government announced a five-year, \$1.2 billion President's Malaria Initiative (PMI) led by USAID to rapidly scale up malaria prevention and treatment interventions in 15 African countries. Its goal is to reduce malaria-related mortality by 50% after three years of full implementation in each country.

This will be achieved by reaching 85% coverage of the most vulnerable groups—children under five years of age, pregnant women, and people living with HIV/AIDS—with proven preventive and therapeutic interventions, including artemisinin-based combination therapies (ACTs), insecticide-treated nets, intermittent preventive treatment of pregnant women, and indoor residual spraying. As of October this year, the Initiative will operate in Senegal and six other African countries: Angola, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Uganda. Senegal's inclusion was announced by Mrs. Laura Bush in June.

Current USAID efforts include three of the four PMI approaches – insecticide-treated nets, ACTs, and intermittent preventive treatment of pregnant women. The new PMI funding will allow USAID to reach a much larger population with these life-saving interventions, and to add protective indoor residual spraying in Senegal's fight against malaria.



Richard Nyberg, USAID

*U.S. Malaria Coordinator, Admiral R. Timothy Ziemer, left, and USAID/Senegal Director, Olivier Carduner, address residents outside the health hut in Yabo Yabo, in Senegal's health district of Thiadiaye. The community performed skits and songs conveying messages on how best to prevent and treat malaria among children and pregnant women.*

### USAID announces over \$40 million in assistance for Senegal

USAID/Senegal has announced development assistance to Senegal totaling \$40.4 million for 2006. This amount represents a 39-percent increase in USAID assistance over last year, largely due to an additional \$12 million to support middle school education. The Government of Senegal will match that \$12 million dollar-for-dollar out of funds made available through debt relief. Over the past four years, USAID's contribution to Senegalese development has averaged more than \$30 million. The new agreements include:

**Economic growth:** \$8.1 million to strengthen economic growth in Senegal through reforms improving trade and investment, business development, and public-private partnerships.

**Health:** \$14.7 million for maternal and child health, HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria, strengthening health services and financing at the community level, and avian flu support.

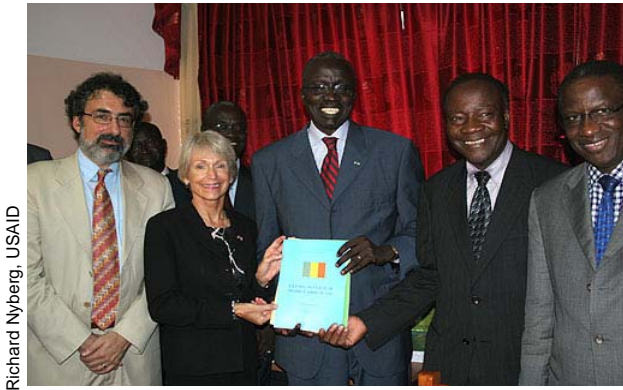
**Education:** \$16.8 million to build rural middle schools, train school principals and teachers, and empower community management of these schools.

**Casamance:** \$803,000 to promote peace in the region following years of civil conflict.



Richard Nyberg, USAID

*Children greet R. Timothy Ziemer in the village of Yabo Yabo. Here, youth and grandmothers too, get involved through drama and song to teach the community about malaria prevention.*



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Attending the textbook donation ceremony are, from left, USAID/Senegal Director Olivier Carduner, the U.S. Ambassador to Senegal, Janice Jacobs, Senegal's Minister of Education, Professor Moustapha Sourang, Program Director from Elizabeth City State University, Dr. Johnny L. Houston, and Senegalese Ambassador to the United States, Lamine Ba.

### More books for Senegalese schools

On September 13, the U.S. Government through USAID donated 225,000 science and language books to Senegal's 6,000 primary schools as part of the U.S. President's Africa Education Initiative. Education Minister Moustapha Sourang said the textbooks were "very strategic," as they arrived just as authorities were encouraging many more students to pursue studies in science and technology. "These books will help young Senegalese discover the world of science and develop a passion for it," he said. In June 2004, Senegal received 270,000 reading textbooks under the same initiative.

### United States backs peace advocacy in Casamance schools

Peace advocacy will become a major subject of discussion and action in and around schools in Senegal's southern Casamance region thanks to a new 18-month, \$250,000 program funded by USAID.

The goal of the program, which will continue through December 2007, is to strengthen the peace advocacy and peace building capabilities of educational authorities, secondary school principals, teachers, students, and communities in the districts of Sédhiou, Oussouye and Bignona. Young people will learn about behaviors and attitudes favoring dialogue and non-violence to promote a peace-oriented culture in the communities affected by sporadic fighting between government and separatist forces since 1982.

Nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) will help set up community peace management committees (CPMC) consisting of the principal, teachers, and student leaders who were trained, parent-teacher association members, and community elders, and locally elected officials. Students and teachers will then apply their peace building skills by working with the CPMCs to implement small school and community projects.

USAID is also currently working to build negotiation skills among all key stakeholders in the conflict. Since 2000, USAID has contributed to stabilizing the Casamance region through a \$15 million program.

## USAID expands maternal and child health care through Safe Birth Africa

With \$775,000 in new funding received in September, in addition to the \$13.9 million already allocated to health programs in 2006, USAID has extended safe birth and improved newborn and child care activities to the regions of Kaolack, Kolda, Louga, Thiès, and Ziguinchor.

Of this amount, \$485,000 will be used to improve skilled birth attendance and newborn care, including life-saving procedures to prevent excessive bleeding during childbirth, under USAID's Safe Birth Africa initiative.

Senegal was selected as one of two Safe Birth Africa pilot countries, along with Rwanda, because of its successful ongoing maternal and newborn care programs carried out by the Government of Senegal and its development partners, and because of the potential for large-scale impact. USAID hopes that this approach will bring great benefits to mothers and infants over the next few years and will serve as a model for other African countries.



Richard Nyberg, USAID

A mother and child outside a USAID-supported health clinic in Khombole.

An additional \$140,000 will get communities involved to help prevent abortion – whether induced or spontaneous – and raise awareness to help women get emergency services and recover from abortions when they do occur.

USAID is also providing \$150,000 to expand training of village health volunteers to properly treat children for pneumonia. Worldwide, pneumonia accounts for 20% of all childhood deaths; placing powerful antibiotics in the hands of trained community members has the potential to save the lives of tens of thousands of Senegalese each year.

### Read more about USAID/Senegal online

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